

Topical Heading

Special Education

Program Title

Preschool Grants for Children with Disabilities

Also Known as

Special Education Preschool Grants, Part B, Sec. 619

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.173

Administering Office

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)

Who May Apply (by category)

State Education Agencies (SEAs)

Type of Assistance (by category)

Formula Grants

Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2004 \$387,699,000

Fiscal Year 2005 \$384,597,408

Fiscal Year 2006 \$380,751,030

Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information*Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.*

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 52

Average New Award: \$7,322,135

Range of New Awards: \$247,636–\$38,677,085

Legislative Citation*Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, Part B, Sec. 619, as amended; 20 *U.S.C.* 1419.**Program Regulations**34 *CFR* 300, Subpart H**Program Description**

This program provides grants to states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to make special education and related services available to children with disabilities, ages 3 through 5. At their discretion, states may include preschool-age children who are experiencing developmental delays, as defined by the state and measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, who need special education and related services and 2-year-olds with disabilities who will turn 3 during the school year. Funds are distributed to eligible SEAs based on the amount each state received in FY 1997 and the relative numbers of children, ages 3 through 5, in the general population and living in poverty. The formula contains numerous provisions for situations in which the appropriation for the program remains constant, increases or decreases, and several maximum and minimum funding limitations. States must distribute the bulk of their grant awards to local education agencies (LEAs). They may retain funds for state-level activities up to an amount equal to 25 percent of the amount they received for FY 1997 under this program, adjusted upward each year by the lesser of either the rate of increase in the state's allocation or the rate of inflation. The amount that may be used for administration is limited to 20 percent of the amount available to a state for state-level activities.

Types of Projects

Funds under this program are used by SEAs and LEAs to make special education and related services available to 3- through 5-year-old children with disabilities and, at a state's discretion, to 2-year-old children with disabilities who will reach age 3 during the school year. Permitted expenditures include the salaries of special education teachers and costs associated with related services personnel, such as speech therapists and psychologists. Funds also may be used for: adaptive equipment needed to allow students to access the curriculum; screening and assessment services; and transportation costs. States may use set-aside funds not reserved for administration for: direct services for children eligible for services under this program; support services; in-service training; provision of early intervention services (which shall include an education component that promotes school readiness and incorporates preliteracy, language, and numeracy skills) in accordance with Part C to children with disabilities who are eligible for services under Sec. 619 and who previously received services under Part C until such children enter, or are eligible under state law to enter, kindergarten; and other state-level initiatives. In FY 2005, this program served 701,949 children.

Education Level (by category)

Pre-K, Early Childhood

Subject Index

Children, Disabilities, Preschool Education, Special Education

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Links to Related Web Sites

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/programs.html>